

Now we lay your body down to rest
 Heaven holds a place,
 for men who've rushed to greatness but still
 loved with grace
 Giving back far more than they'd take
 Amen.

HONORING THE LIFE ACHIEVEMENTS OF MS. BEATRICE BYRD

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life achievements of Ms. Beatrice Byrd, in celebration of her 80th Birthday. Born February 3, 1942, Ms. Byrd, has served as a selfless and celebrated advocate to her community of Red Hook, Brooklyn.

As a public servant, Ms. Byrd ran for City Council to represent her community and the surrounding area in 1991. She has also been elected to serve as the Resident Association President of Red Hook Houses West. In her appointment as a NYCHA Board member, she was an outspoken voice for tenant rights and ensured that her neighbors received equal opportunities, resources, and access to upward mobility.

In her tenure as an educator, Ms. Byrd was a well-respected NYC Public School teacher during the most formative years of a child. She continues to remain a recognized role model in and around the community of Red Hook.

In her role of extended community service, she held the prestigious honor as the President to the Brooklyn Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), was a member to the Lions Club of Red Hook and served on Area Policy Board 6. Currently Ms. Byrd continues to represent Red Hook as a board member to the Joseph P. Addabbo Family Health Center.

As displayed by her decades of community service, Ms. Beatrice Byrd remains a solid pillar of the Red Hook community. She is well respected by generations of her students, neighbors, community professionals and the local clergy. Through her life-long actions she has instilled the core values of ethics, public service and civic pride.

I thank Ms. Byrd for her public service and Happy 80th Birthday.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO AL LIBASCI

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

Mr. SMUCKER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Al Libasci of York, Pennsylvania, a World War II veteran who will be turning 102 years old on February 25, 2022. Al's life has been one of service to our country. Drafted into the U.S. Army in 1942, Al served in the Pacific Theater during World War II with the Jolly Rogers, 90th Heavy Bomb Group, 5th Air Force. Al flew over thirty combat missions in a B-24 Liberator, bravely serving our country overseas. After the War, Al went on to work as a civilian employee for the government, helping the military to acquire

land for some of its installations, including the land on which the United States Air Force Academy now sits. Al's life has been marked by so much more than his career and service, however. He is a father, a husband, a bowling enthusiast, and a friend to many who has touched the lives of people around him with his positivity and enthusiasm.

Al's life has been an extraordinary one and I wish him, his family, and his wife, Rosina, the happiest of birthdays as he celebrates his 102nd.

IN RECOGNITION OF BETSY LAWRENCE AND HER SERVICE TO THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, I rise, along with ZOE LOFGREN, Chair of the Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship, to thank Betsy Lawrence for her service to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

Betsy came to the Committee as part of a distinguished career working to advance the rights of immigrants and their families. She had previously worked for more than a decade at the American Immigration Lawyers Association, where she held several different positions, including Associate Director of Education, Associate Director of Liaison, and Director of Government Relations. Before joining AILA, Betsy was an associate attorney at Van Der Hout LLP. She earned her B.S. from Northeastern University and her J.D. from the University of San Francisco School of Law.

Betsy joined the Committee on the Judiciary as Counsel to our Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship in February 2019—an especially busy time as we prepared to advance a robust immigration reform agenda and conduct meaningful oversight of the Trump Administration's anti-immigrant policies. Betsy quickly proved herself to be an invaluable member of our immigration team, and we were pleased to promote her to Chief Counsel of our Immigration Subcommittee at the beginning of this Congress.

During her tenure here, Betsy played a pivotal role in ensuring House passage of numerous bills to provide for a more humane and just immigration system, including the American Dream and Promise Act, the Farm Workforce Modernization Act, the National Origin-Based Antidiscrimination for Nonimmigrants (NO BAN) Act, and the Access to Counsel Act. She was also heavily involved in our investigation into the Trump Administration's "zero tolerance" or family separation policy, our efforts to include meaningful immigration reform in the reconciliation process, and our work to ensure immigration provisions were included in the America COMPETES Act of 2022. Despite our polarized political climate, Betsy and her team successfully worked to pass several bills into law, including the Citizenship for Children of Military Members and Civil Servants Act and the HOPE (Honoring Our Promises through Expedition) for Afghan SIVs Act of 2021. The Committee is deeply proud of her record of accomplishment.

The country has been fortunate to have Betsy working hard within the halls of Con-

gress to reform our broken immigration system, undo the harms caused by the last administration, and ensure the expedient issuance of special immigrant visas to those who served side by side with American troops in Afghanistan. Although we will miss her greatly, we know she will continue to make her country proud as she transitions to her new role in the Biden-Harris Administration.

We thank Betsy for her service to the Committee and wish her the best of luck with this new chapter.

HONORING THE EXTRAORDINARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF CACHAVIOUS "CHAY" ENGLISH

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

Ms. SEWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary accomplishments of Cachavious "Chay" English, my beloved former Chief of Staff, and key advisors; Chay joined our staff as a legislative assistant in January of 2011 and served his home district with distinction for almost ten years. In November of last year, Chay took on a new role at BGR Group, a premier bipartisan lobbying, and public relations firm, as a vice president where he will be focusing on financial services, tax, and health care policies.

Chay received his education from the University of Michigan, where he served as a residential advisor before receiving his Bachelor of Arts in African and African American Studies. At the University of Michigan, Chay became a member of his esteemed fraternity, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., a brotherhood that has provided him an invaluable network for years to come. He then continued his education at the University of Alabama School of Law, where he graduated with a 3.0. It was here where he began setting the foundation for his promising career in politics as a member of the Trial Advocacy Competition Team that would go on to become national champions in 2009 through 2010. As an active student at the University of Alabama, Chay was also a member of the Order of Barristers Honors Society and the National Black Law Students Association.

Professionally while working as a legal intern for the National Labor Board Field Office and former Alabama 7th Congressional District Representative Congressman Artur David in 2009 and 2010, Chay continued to expand his knowledge of politics by performing statutory research and analysis on proposed legislation concerning Displaced Citizens' Voting Rights, the Elder Justice Act, Military Internet Voting, and Gulf Coast Reconstruction. Chay joined our office in 2011 and served as a Legislative Assistant serving as an interim primary policy advisor for all proposed legislative initiatives, policy recommendations, and recorded votes. Devoting his considerable talents to ensuring the progression of Alabama's 7th Congressional District, he quickly became the primary counsel for legislative initiatives and policy recommendations pertaining to financial services, small business, agriculture, housing, workforce development, and labor issues.